

Message Text

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ORIGIN EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00 INRE-00
CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00
NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 IO-13 DHA-02
/068 R

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EUR/CE:WMWOESSNER
EUR/SOV:SMCCALLY
-----028375 132031Z /61

O 131825Z AUG 77
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY BONN NIACT IMMEDIATE
USMISSION USBERLIN IMMEDIATE
INFO AMEMBASSY PARIS IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
USMISSION NATO
AMEMBASSY BERLIN

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 192533

E.O. 11652:GDS

TAGS: BQG, PGOV

SUBJECT: FRG MOVES RE FEDERAL PROSECUTION OF LORENZ
KIDNAPERS

REF: PARIS 23592; BONN 13241; BONN 13242; USBERLIN 2025

1. DEPT HAS CONSIDERED MAJOR STICKING POINT WITH FRENCH,
I.E. APPOINTMENT OF OBERLE, CHIEF OF FEDERAL PROSECUTORS
OFFICE IN BERLIN, TO HEAD PROSECUTION TEAM. IF FRENCH ARE
DRIVING FOR OBERLE IN FACT TO DIRECT THE CONDUCT OF THE
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PROSECUTION AND MAKE THE SUBSTANTIVE DECISIONS OF TRIAL
STRATEGY WHICH MAY AFFECT THE OUTCOME, WE WOULD NOT BE
WILLING TO JOIN FRENCH EFFORT TO PRESSURE FRG TO AGREE. TO
DO SO, WE BELIEVE, WOULD DIRECTLY INVOLVE THE ALLIES IN
THE PROSECUTION TO AN UNNECESSARY EXTENT, WOULD RECREATE
FRICTION WITH THE FRG AT A TIME WHEN GERMAN OFFICIALS ARE
TRYING TO BE HELPFUL, AND WOULD LEAD TO RECRIMINATIONS

AGAINST THE ALLIES SHOULD OBERLE BLUNDER. ON THE OTHER HAND, IF WHAT FRENCH ARE ARGUING FOR IS COSMETIC STEP NAMING OBERLE AS IN CHARGE OF PROSECUTION, BUT LEAVING IT TO THE GERMANS TO WORK OUT INTERNALLY HOW PROSECUTION DECISIONS ARE MADE AND WHO ACTUALLY ARGUES IN COURT, WE WOULD BE IN FAVOR UNLESS THE FRG CAN PERSUASIVELY DEMONSTRATE WHY THIS WOULD BE IMPRACTICAL. IT WOULD BE

USEFUL IN THIS CONNECTION TO HAVE INDEPENDENT USBER ASSESSMENT OF OBERLE'S OWN CONFIDENCE AS EXPRESSED TO USBER OFFICER (USBER 2025) THAT HE IS IN FACT QUITE ABLE TO CONDUCT PROSECUTION.

2. WITH THESE CONSIDERATIONS IN MIND, DEPT BELIEVES IT WOULD BE PREFERABLE TO DEFER US APPROACHES TO FRENCH UNTIL FRG HAS RESPONDED CONCERNING JUSTICE MINISTRY'S ATTITUDE ON POINT (A) (BONN 13241).

3. DEPT APPROVES TEXT OF ALLIED STATEMENT PARA 2, BONN 13242 (WITH DELETION OF REFERENCE TO BK/O(51)63), AND ITS USE AS AK PRESS STATEMENT. CHRISTOPHER

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: KIDNAPPING, COURT PROCEEDINGS, POLITICAL TRIALS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 13-Aug-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977STATE192533
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: GCHESTER:BJR
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770293-0130
Format: TEL
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
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Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770863/aaaacbkw.tel
Line Count: 83
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: a528f25a-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ORIGIN EUR
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 77 PARIS 23592, 77 BONN 13241, 77 BONN 13242, 77 USBERLIN 2025
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 04-Feb-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 1607483
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: FRG MOVES RE FEDERAL PROSECUTION OF LORENZ KIDNAPERS
TAGS: PGOV, GE, BQG, (LORENZ, PETER)
To: BONN USBERLIN
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/a528f25a-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009